The Canadian Commission Splashing About in the Canals.

What They Will Recommend-A Synopsis of Their Report-ine St. Lawrence Canals to be Deepened - Probability That Government Will Seriously Delay Its Action-Hope Left for New York.

OTTAWA. Canada, March 12, 1871. In the NEW YORK HERALD of January 25 was published an account of the meeting of the Dominion Board of Trade and the recommendations of that body on the important question of canal extension. As you are already aware a canal commission was appointed by the government to inquire into the nal system of Canada as it exists at present and to report on the changes desirable in that system. the better to accommodate the rapidly increasing volume of Western trade. That body was considerably above the average of Canadian commissions, its members being men of experience in commerce and of position in the country. The chairman was steamships, President of the Montreal Telegraph Company and President of the Merchants' Bank. He is a man of decision and enterprise, although arrogant and barsh, and the rest Commission bore about the same relation to him as the round ciphers in a long sum do to the single agure that precedes them. This Commission held three sessions and have prepared their report, which is in type and will shortly be laid before Parliament. I am enabled, however, to give a summary of its contents in

The conclusions arrived at by the Commission have been correctly anticipated in these columns, but it will do no harm to repeat them with such brief comments as may be necessary. I shall, therefore, first describe the canal system of Canada-connecting the lake with the sea by way of the St. Lawrence, which river is the natural outlet for the teeming West, and whose every wave appeals to the Northern States for the unity of America.

The canal at Sault Ste, Marie, about which such an excitement was created at the time of the passage of the Red River expedition, connects Lakes Michigan and Superior with Lake Huron. It passes through American territory, and is the largest and occepest canal in America. The Canadian Commissioners regard with some solicitude INNER DOOR TO THE WEST

should be exclusively controlled by the United States, and recommend the building of a Canadian canal at the Sault, so as to enable vessels to pass from take to ocean through exclusively Canadian canals. Tills meets with much opposition, especially from people at all prepossessed in favor of the United States, and who denounce as useless expenditure the construction of another canal within a stone's throw of one which will amply suffice for the accommodation of seven times the traffic now passing that point.

No notice is taken of the cutting of a canal through the St. Clair flats. Such a canal was commenced a year ago, but your authorities have interfered, and the question has yet to be settled as to whether our canal is not in your territory. Should the American view be correct the results will be quite as serious as those apprehended by the Commissioners from the possession by the United States of the canal at Sault Ste. Marie.

A vessel from Chicago having entered Lake Huron has before her four routes to the sea-two completed, two projected. The fermer are the St. Lawrence canal and the Eric canal, the latter the Georgian Bay canal and the

OTTAWA SHIP CANAL.

The Georgian Eay canal would run from the Georgian Bay, an inlet of Lake Huron, by way of Lake Simcos to Lake Ontario, near Toronto. On the map this seems to possess a great acwantage over the roundabout Welland and Eric route. But the cost of construction is so enhanced by the deep cut to supply water at the summit level on the ridge near Lake Simcoe, and the lockage being much greater than on the Welland route, this canal meets with no favor in the Commission, nor, indeed, with the public, save the ambitious people of feronto, who want the terminus of everything, from Jacob's ladder to the Tehuantepec canal, at their

The Ottawa ship canal is another pretty project ON THE MAP, and it will doubtless, in the more remote future, be

adopted. It would run along the French river to Lake Nipissing, thence by way of the Matteawan river into the Ottawa and down that stream to Mon treal. This route is a short and direct one, but the expense of constructing it through an unsettled country and the 154 feet of additional lockage militate against it and tell in favor of the Welland route. Under another system more favorable to enterprises of a nature so gigantic as the necessity for them is pressing we shall have and need this canal—the short cut from Chicago to Liverpool.

The two existing lines now remaining are the Eric Canal and the St. Lawrence route, by way of the Welland Canal, with New York and Mentreal as the debouching points. The two lines were compared in my letter published in the NEW YORK HERALD of January 25, and an elaborate ARRAY OF STATISTICS PRESENTED.

These need not be reproduced in their entirety Suffice it to say that the St. Lawrence route was shown to have opened earlier and to have con-tinued navigable later than the Eric Canal, the difference in time being twelve days a year; that the St. Lawrence route was shorter to tidewater, and thence shorter to Europe; that in miles of canal navigation and feet of lockage the Eric Canal so far exceeded the St. Lawrence canals that it was slower and more costly. The Commissioners, as anticipated by the HERALD, have decided upon recommending the enlargement of the existing canals

Tork would be brought nearer Chicago by five days by the Champiain route than by the Eric canal.

Of course the press, the politicians and the people generally are indulging in

of the most brilliant nature over the transformation of Montreal into a city of three New York power and the lavish pouring into the lap of Canada of the tolis of the Western world. It is true that the grain trade of Montreal has quadrupled itself within the last four years, and that that city now has a grain export trade one-third that of New York. The wonder is, I think, that with all the advantages claimed for and possessed by the st. Lawrence route, Montreal has not long since distanced Gotham. It is a little strange, too, that, with all this increase of grain-handling, business in Montreal continues depressed and its papers are flicted with advertisements of insolvents. Take Notre Dame street, from one end to the other, and new firms are found—the old ones are in the grazette. The five leading retail dry goods houses of that city were Morgan's, Morrison's, Eowie's, Dufresne's and Merrail's. The first and last alone stand; the others have gone under within the year. So it is in every branch of business, Men like Mr. Alian have made money—his bank has profited—but the rate of wages is no higher, the cost of living is no less, and manufacturers and property holders are idle and losing money.

It must be taken into consideration, before you

money.

It must be taken into consideration, before you It must be taken into consideration, before you blow the taken into consideration, before you blow the taken to Montreal, Quebee, Patagumpus or any other "commercial centre" of the Dominion, that New York advances all the capital to purchase and move the Western crops, and that the current of freight must flow in the same channel as the current of freight must flow in the same channel as the current of freight must flow in the same channel as the current of exchange; that New York bound vessels carry cargo both ways, while Montreal craft often carry ballast or a cheap freight to return with wheat; and, lastly, that to reach Montreal the still dangerous navigation of the Gulf and the slow and expensive river passage have to be encountered. Under American auspices Montreal will become the outport of Chreago and Duluth; but for costly express freights, passenger traffic and the bulk of the commerce, not alone of the continent, but of the world, New York must ever remain the heart of America.

But to return. Because the Commissioners have recommended certain things, and because the people want them, and because they are of themselves desirable, is no reason that we should conclude that these things will be done. Indeed, their pressing necessity militates against the probability of their immediate Accomplishment.

IMMEDIATE ACCOMPLISHMENT. IMMEDIATE ACCOMPLISHMENT.
In the first place the present government has on its hands the intercolonial Railway, which is not to be faished till 1873, and for which \$4,000,000 are appropriated this year. We are pledged to survey the line of the canada Pacific Railroad at once. line of the canada Pacific Railroad at once, and speedily to commence the railroad at once, and speedily to commence the railroad at once, self. We have Manioba and Columbia to organize, and the islands in the Gulf to bring into the confederation, and it is possible that we may—in view of the threatened secession of Quebec—have to unite the various provinces into one State, doing away with the local governments. In view of all this the canals will have to wait. It is significant too that the estimates for the year ending June, 1872, appropriate \$624,000 for the canals, of which \$275,000 are to be devoted to the Carillon Canal, a ditch on the Ottawa. Sull more significant is the omission of the canals from the Governor's speech at the opening of the session. Treating the canals to a commission instead of taxing direct legislative action is a delicate way of dropping the question

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DOWN AN OURLIETTE

Into an abyss of words in which will be lost all action. Commissions have been established here so frequently to find a missing \$100,000, to inquire into Mr. S. B. Foote's mucilage at twenty dollars a pint and red tape at a dollar a yard, and have ended in reporting that this existed and that should not be done and there an end on't, that we have grown suspicious of the machinery. Perhaps the real object of the Commission is to create a stir, to show the people how rich the canals could make them, and, by a lavish expenditure of words, facts and figures to convince them that the short cut to Cathay lies in voting for the Ministry at the general elections in 1872. It is natural that the government whose public works have been useless and non-productive to the country should desire to make a great fuss at its exit with some scheme of real service, and to carry its next election on the canals and Pacific Raitroad, as it did the last on confederation and the intercolonial.

If the work of camal extension were undertaken

colonial.

If the work of camal extension were undertaken in good faith it would deal a severe blow to the Erie Canal and to Buffalo. But, if by the end of 1872 Canada gives any sign of practical action, and she cannot move sooner, it will then remain to be seen whether, at the hands of the people of New York, a counterstroke is not practicable, taking up some grand idea of the Herald stamp and opening the canais free of toils to all seaward bound grain.

The Finances of the Dominion-Receipts and Expenditures-The Growing Debt-Recklessness and Extravagance-The Policy of Retaliation Adhered to.

OTTAWA, March 13, 1871. The Minister of Finance having made his annual budget speech and enunciated the policy of the government, and the public accounts and bank returns being before the public, I am enabled to lay before the readers of the HERALD a brief review of the financial position of Canada.

The receipts for the financial year 1869-70, ending on the 30th June last, were \$22,874,411, composed of | The following items:
| REVENUE | \$12,953,834 |
| Public works | 1,006,844 |

Post Office 573,565
Other sources
Dominion notes 2,649,353
Property and special receipts 1,786,598
Open accounts 2,976,234
Total\$22,874,411
Including open accounts and deducting the
amount of money raised by the issue of notes, the
net revenue is \$18,488,459.
For the same period the expenditure was
\$22,020,766, as follows:-
Public debt, interest, &c \$5,513,546
Legislation, police, justice, &c 1,565,875
Militia 1.245.972
Subsidies to the provinces 2.588.604
Post Office and mail service 1,151,930
Coast service and fisheries 260,994
Public works 927 869
Customs deductions, &c
Re lemption of debt 948,556
Northwest Territory 1,821,887
Public works (capitol)
Other open accounts and miscellaneous
items

Total\$22,020.766
Thus, while there is an apparent surplus of \$753,000 the country has paid out \$3,532,000 more than she should have done, since in her income she has in cluded money received from the sale of assets and

the creation of new liabilities.

The dept of the Dominion, bearing interest at from four to six per cent, is put down at \$93,717,000. from four to six per cent, is put down at \$23,717,000.
Deposits, notes, &c., bring it up to about \$107,009,000, gold. This is equal to about twenty-six deliars, gold, per head of population, as against sixty-two dollars, currency, or \$55 75. gold, in the United States. But while the Canadian-debt is increasing at the rate of eighty cents, gold, per head, per anuum, the American is being reduced by \$3 16, currency, or \$2 75, gold. Add, that everyone knows how your debt was incurred, while out a represents the deficit of thirty years; growth. The following figures may be of interest, showing the debt of Canada (Quebec and Ontario) for the last thirty years:

Jears:-			The state of the s
	A LADDER OF	INSOLVENCY.	
1841	\$5,785,280	1857	. \$52,334,911
1843	9,083,359	1860	
1845	13,731,878	1862	
1850	18,782,565	1866	
1853	25,514,527	1867	
	38,851,834	1808	. 78,714,735
1855	45,855,217	1870	. 99,585,000
The fin	ancial policy of	f the gover	nment may
briefly be	described as lay	ing hands on	all the loose
change of	the country an	d spending it	on objects
best suite	to themselves.	Thus the sys	tem of gov-
ernment s	avings banks at	tached to the	e Post Office
Departme	nt has drained	the country	of about
\$2,000,000,	on which four	and five per ce	ent is paid.

This is so much capital absorbed. Again, by cen peiling all insurance companies to deposit fund with the government, a further sum of \$4,460,42 is also absorbed. If these deposits were for the appearance of the second control of the second co

special

PROTECTION OF CANADIAN INSURERS.

there would be some color of reason about the matter, but they may or may not be applied for that purpose as the depositors elect. The Banking act, compelling all banks to hold fifty per cent of the amount of their circulation in government bonds, was justly brancled as an act to force a loan to the government of half their issue. The Banking act of last year was meant to authorize the issue of Canadian gree-backs secured by the creation of bonds to an equal amount, thus guaranteeing one debt by incurring another. A raid is now being made on the savings banks, which is is proposed to turn into the hands of the government, making them also transfer agencies, and in effect banks of issue. In brief, the financial policy of the country is the absorption of capital by every avenue possible, the creation of the currency is proportion to its inflation and the exact state of the country's indebtedness. This tendency is causing serious apprehension. PROTECTION OF CANADIAN INSURERS.

sion. By the way, as several Canadian papers are de-By the way, as several Canadian papers are deducing the commercial prosperity of the Dominion from the rapid increase of the volume of currency, it may be well to state that the circulation is about \$33,000,000, or eight dollars per head. The national banks in the nineteen States north of the Ohio and east of the Missouri have a capital equal to sixteen dollars per head, without including banks under State charters, and in New England, contiguous to Canada, the national bank capital is thirty-seven dollars per head.

The estimated expenditure for 1871-2 is \$25,682,372, or about seventeen per cent increase. Of this the debt takes \$6,687,100; \$7,846,000 are devoted to public works, of which \$6,000,000 are to be spent on the International Reliway, \$1,500,000 for the militia and \$2,550,000 for subsidies to the provinces.

Sir Francis Hincks, in his speech of Friday evening, when bringing down

THE BUDGET,

was not happy. He defended the swindle perpe-

trated by his predecessor, Sir John Rose, in taking money advanced by England to build the International for the purpose of redeeming Canadian bonds, thus flying in the face of the statute. He derived gratification from the fact that Canada imported thrice as much manufactured goods from England as the United States did in proportion to population. Mr. Cartier yelped applicuse, stating that "One Canadian vash as good as tree Frances." seemingly remembering the day when her Majesty's government valued his head at £500 sterling and oblivious of the fact that the prosperity of a nation is not to be gauged by the amount she purchases in any one market, or indeed in all. He seemed to forget that the States, consuming as they do more per head than the Canadas manufacture largely, and send us \$22,000,000 a year of their surplus. To return, however, Sir Francis flincks then read a long extract from Macauly to prove that a national debt was a

however, Sir Francis Hincks then read a long extract from Macauly to prove that a national debt was a

NATIONAL BLESSING.

For the year 1809-70 he reckoned on a surplus of \$1,000,000, the customs revenue having exceeded the estimates by about sixteen per cent. For 1870-1 he placed the expenditure at \$15,000,000, and the revenue at \$17,270,000, claiming a surplus of \$1,370,000, which might be increased to \$1,800,000 if he could save enough. For 1871-2 the total estimate was \$25,682,000, of which the actual amount chargeable to income was \$16,346,000, a very large amount. He anticipated a failing off in customs of \$500,000, and an appropriation of \$500,000 to introduce a new ideclinal system of weights and measures, which would reduce the surplus to about \$700,000. This was a very favorable result, and it might be thought that the government should make a more extensive reduction in taxation. It was not expedient to reduce taxation at present. The duties on coal and flour would be removed, and discretionary power would be asked, so that the Governor in council might from time to time add certain raw materials used in manufactures to the free list. It would be most unwise to alter scriously our tariff while negotiations were pending

AT WASHINGTON.

Machinery which could not be manufactured here would be admitted free, and a duty of one addar and infly cents per cord be placed on hemiock bark, so as to prevent the stripping of the trees by Americans. It was significantly added that a large expenditure would largely increase the national debt, and that consequently Canada would again have to become a borrower in the markets of the world.

The speech was a weak one, and is only noticeable as show ng that the anti-American spirit still prevails in the councils of the government, and that annual deficits of a still more serious nature are anticipated.

Mr. Gall's answer was a masterly one, characterized by all thos e excellences which have made him

ticipated.

Mr. Galt's answer was a masterly one, character

and the sex of the sex a masterly one, characterized by all those excellences which have made him fully the equal of Gladstone in financial debate. He censured the government for adopting the dangerous heresy that a national debt was a national blessing, and pointed out how she commercial progress of England had been made

ons heresy that a factional decit was a fandonal objects, and pointed out how the commercial progress of England had been made

IN SPITE OF HER DEET,

not in consequence of it. It was a poor policy to continue taxing our people because a commission was sitting at Washington, under the halluchation that we were exerting a pressure in America, the government was monopolizing and controlling the capital of the country to a most dangerous degree. Through savings banks, banks of issue, insurance deposits and other schemes the government was drawing to uself all the spare capital of the country, thus creating a treasury deceptively fall and which invited extravagance in public works. The government administration had been neither wise nor economical. There were two classes of expenditure—one authorized by statute, one controlled by government. The latter had increased forty-five percent since 1866, thirty per cent within the last two years. A heavy expenditure, such as was projected, would induce inflation and general speculation, and so hurry the country onward to

FINANCIAL DISASTER.

The regular expenditure was increasing more rapidly taan the revenue. We should come to a crash ere long, and when the evil day came the people would find that the largest portion of the sources of the country's prosperity was invested in the debt and not available in the emergency. After criticising the budget in detail, he moved a resolution expressing alarm at the financial state of the country, that he might record his vote against the present danger-ous state of affairs.

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ous state of affairs.

A long debate ensued. The only noteworthy statement was that of Mr. Tilley, Minister of Cusioms, to the effect that the reduction of the duties on coal, wheat and flour would weaken the hands of the Commission, and would be unwise, as the result of the Commission would probably be a commercial treaty. Mr. Cartwright pointed out the danger of a policy tending to inflation. When trouble came we should have a sum of \$12,000,000 of our debt on call which we could not meet. We were tending onward to another crash like that of 1857. 857. hr. Galt's motion was lost by 91 to 35, about one

third of the members being absent at the local elec-tions at Ontario. The tarinf was amended so as to take of the duty of five per cent on the fifteen per cent list (which had raised that to 15%), and the

MISCELLANEOUS FOREIGN ITEMS.

A new journal entitled Alsace and Lorraine has been founded in Bordeaux. The town of Piombières, in France, has been nearly

destroyed by the Prussians. The French General Durrien had both feet frozen off during the retreat of Bourbaki's army.

Two Court balls will be held in Brussels after

Easter, on the 10th and 17th April.

Mazziul is now the editor of an ultrarepublican ournal in Rome, called La Roma del Popolo.

Father Hyacinthe left London after the conclusion of peace to rejoin his mother in Paris. The ancient statues in the Cathedral of St. Denis

have been horribly mutilated by the Prussian sol-Horses were on February 28 still so scarce in

Paris that carriages were paid seventy trancs for a With the exception of six infantry regiments the whole French army will be dissolved and then re-

Four hundred and fifty thousand valentines were sent through the London Post Office on February 13, to different parts of England.

As a curious incident it is related that the French General Faidherbe and his victor, the Prussian General Von Goeben, were intimate friends before The Agricultural Society in France, in concert

with the Royal Agricultural Society in England, has formed a committee for receiving subscriptions to the French farmers' seed fund. Black marble slabs inscribed with the names of

all those National Guards who have failen before the enemy, have been placed in the vestibules of several public buildings in Paris. Seven members of the French Academy are de-

puties to the National Assembly. They are as follows:-Victor Hugo, Thiers, De Laprade, Duke of Broglie, Dupanioup, Vitet, Jules Favre, St. Marc Girardin.

A corps of the Gardes Mobiles will be sent to Al-

giers, where a military academy similar to that of St. Cyr is being erected for their instruction. Officers of the Mobiles will in future be appointed, not elected.

The mitrallleuse has existed in China for centu-

ries. A Jesuit missionary of Pekin gave a description of it in a book published in Paris as far back a 1782. The design which accompanied the description resembles greatly the French mitraillense.

Four hundred and ninety-one vessels passed through the Suez Canal during last year. Of these 314 were English, 74 French, 3 Egyptian, 26 Austrian, 18 Ottoman, 10 Italian, 3 Portuguese, 2 American, 1 Zanzibarian, 3 Spanish, 1 Danish, 2 Russian, 1 Greek. The receipts of the company amounted to 5.072.098 francs.

An anti-slavery meeting was held in Madrid on ter, made a speech, which obtained great applause He said he had lost one leg in fighting for the emancipation of the blacks, and that he was ready to shed

his last drop of blood for this cause.

The people of Malta have addressed a petition to the Queen of England, asking her to protect the rights of the Pope. The Queen replied that she will see that the liberty and independence of the Holy

Father be observed.

A new quarantine regulation has been issued by the Russian government for vessels entering on the Baltic. No vessels coming from Barbary or any other Turkish possession of the coast of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea will be admitted unless provided with a clean bill of health, issued at the place from which they started, and countersigned by the Russian or some

other consul in his absence.

Two officers of the Paris National Guard, Lieutenant Colonel Piazza and Commander Branet, were sentenced to two years' imprisonment each for having during the night of January 27 assumed the functions of a general. They were defended by M. Emile Flourens, brother of Gustave Flourens, who has been sentenced to death.

Prince Metternich's crecentials as Austro-Hungarian Ambassador to France have been renewed. It is believed that a Russo-Turkish rapprochemen is on the tapis.

The French Consul at Lemberg, Gallicia, has publicly thanked the Poles for the sympathy they have shown towards the French nation.

The Governor of a Russian province decided the other day that the old ukase forbidding Jews to have Christian servants was still in force. The Minister at St. Petersburg, however, reversed this decision.

ST. DOMINGO.

Keeping House in Dominica-The Town of Azua-A Queer Customer-A Country Seat-The Washerwomen of the Country-Official Banquet-Colored Callers.

Azca, St. Domingo, Feb. 17, 1871. My last letter was written immediately after the arrival of our overland party at this place, and my impressions of the place at that time were not at all favorable; for we were quite fatigued from our travel, hot and dusty, and were compelled to submit to certain annoying delays which we thought might might have been avoided. Since that time, however, General Valentina Baez, who is the Govervor of the town and a brother of the President has paid us such marked attention as to obliterate all our first feelings of unpleasantness. RESPING HOUSE.

We have been furnished a house for our residence, which is hardly yet completed, belonging to Mr. Globs, who is a son of the Treasurer of the Baez gov-ernment. The house is like nearly all the others in the town made of the palm slabs and thatched with the broad leaves of the same tree. It has five rooms. all on the ground floor, and the floor is a mixture of earth and cement, which forms into a fine dust, covering our clothes with it, very much to their deterioration. Mr. Gibbs, the owner, resides next door, and has been drunk ever since our ar rival, which renders him Misgustingly familiar and officious with us. We at first took our meals at the house of a large raw-boned French woman, who professes to entertain strangers; but we soon discovered that said entertainment consisted principally of large bills, equal in amount to those of a first class New York hotel, and as we were not disposed to pay such a price without the corresponding comforts and advantages thereof, we determined to cater for ourselves, and have consequently engaged cisque Africanus St. Domingo Loanzo, and who was brought from the coast of Africa when young. This old man, who understands about as much English as would enable him to get himself into trouble, is our cook and general housemald, and performs his duties about as miserably as we could well desire. Then we have another servant, furnished by the Governor, who attends to bringing us water and a few other duties, and who amuses himself by packing into his haversack everything eatable he can lay his hands on.

Thus we get along beautifully; we have delegated one of our party to attend to the swearing, and get along quite harmonionsly.

CHARACTER OF THE TOWN, ETC.
The houses are, with few exceptions, constructed in the manner I have described—of palm slabs and thatched with paim leaves, firmly secured by thongs made of tough vines. This kind of roof forms the best possible protection against the heat of the sun. There are no glasses in the windows, but neavy shutters are fastened at night. At the caves, which extend some distance over the sides of the houses, there is a considerable space for ventilation. In some nouses the floors are planked or tiled, but in most cases they are of well packed carth. The coeking is done either in the open air or in outhouses, the fuel being charcoal. Hammocks are almost universally used for sleeping, bedsteads being a great rarity. A few chairs and a couple of rude tables generally complete the furniture. The streets are laid out at right angles, are quite wide, but extremely stony and poorly cared fer.

The population of Azua is about 1,500, and about every fifth house contains a shop, where are offered for sale a few groceries and fruits, there being but little variety in the stocks. The inhabitants are mostly mulattoes; there are, however, a number of blacks and a few Spaniards. The town is situated about three and a half miles back from the Bay of Ocoa, or, as the particular bight at this place is called, the Bay of Tortuguero; and although there is a gradual ascent from the coast, the town is really in a valley, the high range of mountains which extend along for miles parallel to the coast forming a splendid background.

One of the persons I met and to whom I had a letter of introduction was Don Antonio DuQuesnay. Don Antonio is about fifty-five years of age, but has undoubtedly seen as much of the world as most men of eighty. Spare and round shouldered, with a sharp eve and sharper nose, he looks like Don Quixete, and does not illy resemble in character that remarkable adventurer. After knocking about the world, trying his fortune in almost every country and climate- not excepting California in 1849—he has finally wound up by landing in Azua, where he is engaged in the humanitarian scheme of teaching the young natives the rudiments of their language and the elementary branches of learning. It is a singular sight to witness this man, who has undoubtedly possessed an adventurous and restiess disposition, settled down here, with a dozen or more half naked little urchins surrounding him, almost worshipping him as they repeat his formulas of wisdom, and receive, with a proper degree of contrition, his well administered castigations, for the Don believes in a proper amount of well applied physical demonstrations of authority. He has about forty scholars, all told, and he states that nowhere has he ever seen greater eagerness to learn. One little chap of about six years wrote a good hand at the Don's dictation, and performed some good arithmetic examples. With all his eccentricities Don Antonio is doing a good work among the people. His charge for each pupil is one dollar per month, which is usually paid in produce.

A MODEL PLANTATION,

his eccentricities Don Antonio is doing a good work among the people. His charge for each pupil is one dollar per mouth, which is usually paid in produce.

A MODEL PLANTATION,
On Monday aftermoon, at the invitation of General Baez, we took a ride in the surrounding country. We were supplied with excellent horses, and about three o'clock our cavalcade dashed out of town with a bugler in advance and a considerable escort accompanying us. Aithough the sun was quite hot, the thermometer indicating about eighty-five degrees, yet a splendid sea breeze prevented our feeling any oppressiveness from its effects. Our road was beautifully shaded and in good condition. On both sides good fences marked the boundaries of the different plantations, in which were growing sugartable, battathas, plantains, corn, tobacco, cocoanuts, oranges and sweet potatoes. We turned into one of these enclosures where some men were at work and fefreshed ourselves with sugar cane and cocoanut milk, which latter when the juts are fresh from the tree is a delicious beverage, being remarkably cool. After our refreshment we again dashed ferward, our borses now getting well warmed up and travelling splendidly. Leaving the main road we went some distande over a bridle path, and soon came to the slight of ancient Azua, for the original town, which was built by the Spanlards in the early part of the sixteenth century, having been destroyed by an earthquake, and, as was usually done in such cases, the inhabitants, fearing to rebuild in the same spot, moved to another location. The foundation of an ancient church is about all that we could see of the runs. It was apparently of good size, as the walls were at least four feet thick. A beautiful stream of water flows near by, and the position is charming. We passed a plantation belonging to General Baez, and entered one occupied by Señor Marchena. Here we beneld a seene of tropical luxuriance which would be difficult to surpass. Long avenues, smooth and well swept, passed through vast fields of sugar caue,

and took great pride in showing us through his grounds.

The piantation must have contained from 800 to 1,000 acres, and was in the highest state of cultivation possible with the implements used in the country, they being hoes and axes. I have not seen a plough in the island. The whole place was thoroughly irrigated and drained, and the soil was everywhere of the richest character. Many of the canes were twenty feet high and from two to three inches in diameter. We were assured that they would not require replanting for years; indeed, we were shown some which General Baez, stated were planted before he was born, and he is fifty years old. The sugar is of the best quality for redning, although the means of granulating it here are very imperfect. With such natural advantages of soil and climate, however, what could not be accomplished by the introduction here of the ordinary appliances of civilization?

introduction here of the ordinary appliances of civilization?

We gailoped up one drive and down another, meeting some new attraction at every turn. A sugar mili, of an old and inferior make, was in operation; a rum distillery and other buildings pertaining to the piace evidenced care and attention. Yet i am satisfied that Señor Marchena could net, with his imperfect means, make use of one-half of his growth of cane, and in crusing not more than two-thirds of the juice could be pressed out. Notwithstanding this, and the fact also that owing to incendiarism our ing the occupation of the country by the Spaniards he suffered many losses, he still persists amid all difficulties, and carnestly prays for annexation to the United States, is order to secure protection and thus enable him to develope his enterprises. Under

the circumstances I deem him a model of perseverance. It was quite dark as we entered the town upon our return, having made a circuit of at least twenty miles.

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NATIVE WASHERWOMEN.

I started off alone one morning for a walk along the river, and it being quite early I was rewarded by a novel and picturesque sight. On both sides of the stream were women squaiting close to the edge of the stream were women squaiting close to the edge of the stream were women squaiting close to the edge of the stream were women squaiting close to the edge of the stream were women squaiting close to the edge of the stream were work with broad nadoles, hammering away upon them with broad nadoles, hammering away upon them with broad nadoles, hammering away upon them with broad nadoles, hammering are stretched them, and I could hear the term "Americana" very frequentry. At a certain boint up the stream the washing ceased, and above that there were numbers of men, women and children filling casks, bottles and every conceivable kind of vessels with water for drinking purposes. It is thus carried around through the town on donkeys and the heads of women, and sold, the price being about five cents a cask.

Leaving the river, I struck mto the chapparal which lined the banks, and wandered for some time ami i narrow shaaded waiks, across which various brilliantly plumaged birds were filting, making musical the atmosphere around. Among them I noticed two or three varieties or numming birds, who would poise themselves for an instant and then dart away like lightning. The cool morning air was quite invigorating, and returning to the stream I turned homeward with a keen appetite. As I passed the washerwomen I attempted to converse with some of the best looking of them, by using mongrel language accompanied by signs, but the result was not a success.

General Baez invited our overland party, together with General Sigel, to take breakfast with him one morning, which, however, was more of a dinner than a breakfast. We accordingly went to his reside

system and endeavored to impross upon them that we considered it one of the most important concomitants of a true resublican government. Great interest was manifested by the company, who seemed anxious to find out as much as possible of our internal affairs, and expressed their greatest enturials in favor of annexation. One general stated that from this time he wanted to be considered as under the orders of the American government, and desired to have the flag immediately raised. Everything passed of satisfactorily, and was quite a success culmarily.

DUSKY VISITORS.

Since our arrival at this place the news has spread over the surrounding country like widdire, and the people are impressed with the idea that we have come to ruse the American flag without delay and complete annexation. We have received crowds of them daily, they having donned their best clothing and flocked to our quarters with eager haste, greeting us with smiling faces, outstretched hands and a hearty "Meenos dias, Senores," to which we respond as heartily as the annoying circumstances will permit. As, however, these spontaneous expressions of the people furnish us with the best evidence of their true feelings and their unanimous desire for annexation, we consider them of too much importance to be treated rightly. It is mighly amusing sometimes to witness their indicrous attempts at open and decorations preparatory to visiting us, every variety of costume being produced for the occasion. As a general thing, however, they are neat and clean, and whether their clothing consists of pantaloons only, or whether they sport the additional toggery of coat, hat and shoes, their demeanor is as respectful and graceful as can be imagined. They are shaded in complexion from almost white to a pure chony, the predominating coior being a serio fa aristocracy, which, however, is entirely social and not political. Some of the temales have remarkably fine features, showing a large infusion of spanish blood, which particularly develops tiself in their dark, pierc of Spanish blood, which particularly develops uself in their dark, piercing eyes and graceful carriage. I have seen some of these women carry immense burdens upon their heads, balancing kegs of water and other articles without the assistance of their bands of the second of the seco

burdens upon their heads, balancing kegs of water and other articles without the assistance of their hands. Whenever circumstances will permit they dress the uselves with taste, and are as modest and as fond of the usual female adornments of jewelry, &c., as you will find anywhere. The men are mostly well formed, lithe and active, and invariably good hoisemen. The women are quite industrious and labor cheerfully from moraing till night, and I have little doubt that if the men were not so continually interrupted by alarms and invasions that they also would be good laborers.

This country would be a paradise for the strong-minded women, and I wonder that same of them do not emigrate here; for usually the marriage rites consist of a sort of mutual agreement to live together until either party is dissatisfed, when they can amicably become unmarried, the woman taking possession of all the personal property, which here comprises almost everything, as very lew have any real estate. This system appears to work very well if one may judge from the lew signs of discontent manifested on either side. The father is compelled to take care of his children, however, under the Code Napoleon, which is the law of the land, and is strictly enforced. They require but little care, for as soon as they can crawl they care for themselves and fight their own way pretty much thereafter. They run entirely naked until they are six or eight years old, and are then provided with some slight garment, more to indicate their age, apparently, than to protect them from the weather or to hide their persons. At fourteen the boys are required to enter the army, where they continue the remainder of their lives. When there is no actual necessity for their immediate presence they are allowed to cultivate the soil or attend to any other avocation by which they can provide for their physical wants. Their army pay is a loaf of bread or three plantains and a pound of meat a day (when it can be procured) during their actual service in the field; and unless t during their actual service in the field; and unless they can be blessed with enough peace to earn their clothing by their labor they must go maked, as the government does not propose to clothe them or pay them any money. As there is generally a little warfare on hand, they are not very well clad. Can it be presumed, therefore, that with such prospects before them this people should make much progress in agricultural or other pursuits? Give them stability in their government, propagatives. in their government, permanent peace and some en-conragement and instruction, and I believe they would become prosperous and industrious.

· WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

Meeting of the Cackling Hens.

The New York Woman Suffrage Society held Its regular session yesterday afternoon. Quite a large number of ladies were present, as well as a few of the stronger sex. The Rev. Dr. Clark, of Harlem, who was to read a paper, being absent, the society took up the question of property as related to women. It was thought that women should have ene-half of their husband's property, to do with as they chose. Women should have a chance to succeed or fall if they want to make an experi-

to succeed or fall if they want to make an experiment in business. Men should not have a right to give their property by will to any but the wife. The question was asked whether property rights could be secured by women without the ballot.

Dr. Manyin thought it wicked for a man to leave his property to religious institutions to the neglect of his children. The ballot won't effect these things unless there is a public sentiment back of it.

MISS SMITH thought that the principal use of the ballot would be to open women's eyes to the fact that their talents should not be conlined to the petty details of household labor. Such work can be done by subordinates as well, and it is poor economy for intellectual women to give their time to domestic details. A lady thought that women might as well vote as petition. The laws have been changed in the State of New York by petition, till women have more rights than men in some respects.

The ladies had some

men in some respects.

The ladies had some

SHARF THINGS

to say about the difficulty that wives have to get money from their husbands; and so silowance was advocated by some, while others thought that this was not the better way. Women are in the habit of picking their husbands; pockets and resorting to other expedients to get the money they need.

Mrs. Baklow, who has lately come from the South, referred to the large number of women who are carrying on the work of large plantations. She wished that women would stand by each other, and not be jealous of each other's success. She gave an interesting account of a woman's work on Harker Island, nine miles from Beaufort. Miss Beil went to this island seven years ago, where she found \$50 people, not more than a dozen of whom could read. These room white the ground and brought them to cultivate the ground and brought them to a higher condition. Dr. Sheidon said he had come to the meeting hoping to learn something, but he had been disappointed. The gentieman went on to show that the laws are now in favor of women in this State. He thought that men as a rule were willing to give women half of their wealth, and that women have far greater power than men, masmuch as they have the education of the rising generation. Women can make just such men as they have a mind to. He was willing for women to vote, but he didn't believe the ballot would be of any use to them.

An entinustastic gentleman gave this speaker a "piece of his mind," after which the meeting adjourned.

There was some confusion at various times during the meeting, the ladies not being able to restrain

There was some confusion at various times during the meeting, the ladies not being able to restrain their curiosity to see the ceremonies in honor of St. Patrick.

A PICTURE OF MODERN SOCIETY.

Adultery a la Mode-The Story of a Baltimore Belle and a Man About Town-Caught in Flagrante Delicto-A Double Divorce Makes Everybody Happy.

The looseness of marriage ties in modern society is amply illustrated by the following event which took place a few weeks since:-

About eighteen months ago a gentleman of handsome mien and good address was introduced into a family of high standing. From reasons of delicacy and on account of the social position of the parties the full names are withheld. The head of this family was Colonel H., of the staff of the present Governor of Maryland. His wife, Mrs. H., is descended from the oldest patrician stock of that State and the possessor of a large fortune in her own right. Besides these distinguishing advantages a peculiar interest has been attached to her on account of

She has not only been famous as one of the leading belies of Baltimore, but also on account of he "secesh" proclivities, for which she has been in inmate or several federal prisons during the late war. It was she who had made her way through the federal lines in order to deliver to General Gilmore surnamed "Light Horse Harry" the sword of honor for which a subscription had been got up by some ladies of Baltimore. The federal authorities, however, refused to see this chivalrous deed in its proper light. On her return she narrowly escaped imprisonment and was kept under close surveillance for some time afterwards. As the reader will see the antecedents of this lady were in keeping with the further development of her character. Mrs. Colonel H.—or rather she who was, but is at present no longer Mrs. H .- is the happy mother of a grown-up son and a charming young lady of sixteen, herself engaged to a young gentleman in Brooklyn. The name of the hero of this story also begins with an H. In order to avoid confusion he will, in the course of this story, be named Lothario. Well, Lotharlo himself was a married man of thirty-six, but looked much younger than his age. His wife lived in St. Louis and was

PINING AWAY IN COLD NEGLECT while he was wasting his substance in idleness. Lothario succeeded in insinuating himself into the good graces of Mrs. H., who, at the mature age of thirty-four, still retained all the beauty and freshness of youth. This was no difficult matter to do, as the lady herself made considerable advances. The cold formalities of the first meeting soon melted before the congenial warmth of a lamiliarity that foreboded no good to

THE PEACE OF MIND OF THE COLONEL, who for a considerable time reposed in fancied se-curity, trusting to the plighted faith of his interesting wife. As the acquaintance ripened into inti-

ing wife. As the acquaintance ripened into intimacy the Colonel became, however, uneasy and suspicious. His wife, with the skillul dissimulation of her sex, contrived to quiet these suspicions, and Lothario became the fixture usually called "FRIEND OF THE FAMILY."

About a year ago, six months after his first introduction, Lothario came to this city. Though of good social standing he was not a man of wealth. He had been fooling away his time, and had now to do something for a living. He soon obtained a responsible position in a large establishment. A lively cross fire of letters was kept up between the two lovers. Among the voluminous correspondence which was afterwards found there were billets which teemed with expressions of tender passion. The two lovers fairly exhausted the vocabulary of endearing terms, and, as it were, smothered one another with affection. This state of things lasted for some time. About two months ago the lady, her husband and charming young daughter, who had the full benefit of the city and engaged anartments at one of

charming young daughter, who had the full benefit of

THIS BEAUTIFUL MATERNAL EXAMPLE,
came to the city and engaged apartments at one of
the first class hotels. As may be well imagined
Lotharlo was duly informed of their arrival and in
his quality of friend of the family paid his devoirs
to the Colonel and his wife. The dult presence of
the husband, however, stood between neart and
heart and interfered with anything beyond a
irie diy and harmiess conversation. Lovers can
communicate with one another without the aid of
words. It is to be presumed that
SECRET GLANCES
which escaped the eyes of the legal possessor of the
lady were exchanged and brought about the desired understanding. Matters were now hurrying
to a crisis. It had come to be the case that the
lady became so passionately fond of Lothario that
she thought she could not live apart from him,
and was induced to overstep all social barriers in
order

order

To Gratify Her Guilty Passion.

After a short stay in New York, Colonel H. and family left this city for home. A week afterwards Mrs. H. again came to the city, this time alone, and engaged a room at a very large hotel, Toward dusk a gentleman of pleasing exterior called at the very same hotel and inquired for the lady in question. He was ushered into her presence. Early next morning the Colonel, who in the meantime has probably smelt a rat, arrived, and after duly entering his name asked to be Shown to his wife's room. SHOWN TO HIS WIFE'S ROOM.

The polite hotel cierk complied with his request, and ordered one of the serving men to show the gentleman to room No. —. To room No. — the gentle-

The polite hotel clerk complied with his request, and ordered one of the serving men to show the gentleman to room No. — To room No. — the gentleman was accordingly shown. On arriving at the door of the apartment the Colonel, whose suspicions had already been aroused, heard a whisper and the sound of a male voice coming from within. His suspicions of his wire's infidelity now grew into certainty, and it only remained to him To UMASK THE GULLTY PAIR.

To carry out his design he requested the serving man to knock at the door on the pretext of delivering a letter. The man did so, and the door was uniocked and opened just wide enough to allow a female hand, which was held forward, to pass through the opening. The furious husband could contain himself no longer. He pushed the door open and beheld his wife in undress and her paramour in bed. Here was a prima facie case of crim. com., or, as the French say, a fagrant defit. With A VOLLEY OF EXECRATIONS the Colonel proceeded to pitch into the destroyer of his happiness. Lothario, with a remarkable presence of name, saw at once the full extent of the pight in which he was placed, and at the same time, sought for means of escape. With amazing coolness he ordered the Colonel to "clear out," and to enforce his argument.

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HE DREW A REVOLVER,
threatening to shoot him if he did not vacate the apartment. The husband took this forcible hint, and made for the office at the greatest possible sped to get help. Lotharlo had just time enough to slip up his pantaloons when an angry voice and steps of several men were heard to approach. He gathered up his clothes as fast he could, darted out through the nearest passage, ran down stairs, and found himself breathless and panting in one of the yards. Here a cook of French nationality met his bewildered gaze. With money Lotharlo thought he could go to the bottom of the inan's heart and be ploted out to safety. He accordingly took out a ten dollar bill and held it forth,

go to the bottom of the man's heart and be piloted out to safety. He accordingly took out a ten dollar bill and held it forth,

IMPLORING THE GAUL

to show him where he could escape his infuriated adversary. Lotharlo, however, mistook his man. The Frenchman, who saw before him a man without hat, shoes or stockings—for Lotharlo had neiting on but a pair of panialoons and an undershirt—with a bundle of clothes under his arm, took him for a thief and thought by his capture to secure a better reward, per chance an advancement. He pounced, therefore, upon the gentleman "in undress" and shouted with all his might, "You are a test! I take you to de proprietaire; I take you to de offece." Here was a dilemma for Lotharlo. Something was to be done, and quickly, too. Without much ado he knocked the knocked the knocked the content of the house of him had been alway and brought up in the laundry. Here he was confronted with the laundry girls, who had just come to work. Woman's leart is open to pity if not to avatice. To make things, however, doubly sure, he fourished the aforesaid ten dollar bill in a wild and excited manner, imploring them to show him some back door through which he could get out. The terrified faundry girls fied at his appreach, thinking him some escaped lunante. They left aim in undisputed possession of the apartment. He put on the necessary clothes, and, after a few minutes' search, luckly found his way into the street. But here the story does not end. The course of love never ran smooth, but love defees all obstacles. The lady, who had to bear the full brunt of the Colonel's bitter reproaches, apparently made it up with her husband, and was induced to return to Baltimore. But a short time after her arrival there she, by some underhand means,

OBTAINED A BIVORCE

from her husband and hurried back to New York into the arms of her beloved, who in the meantime had also contrived to get a divorce from his wife. There was no bar now between their happiness, The long wished for marriage was consummated, and t

Europe.

POUGHKEEPSIE BOAT CLUB.—At a meeting of the members of the Shatemuc Boat Club, held Tuesday evening, Dr. Charles L. Houghton was elected secretary, and Floy M. Johnston treasurer, to fil vacancies leit by the resignation of the former secretary and treasurer. The officers of the club as they now stand are:—President, Tristram Coffin; vice president, Aaron Innis; secretary, Charles L. Houghton; treasurer, Ploy M. Johnston; executive commuttee, william C. Mili, John R. Hoosevelt, Georges, Burnap. The club now numbers over fifty members, and is in a very presperous condition. They have undoubtedly the best and most convenient boat house of any club in the country.

No KU KLUX IN TRXAS.—The Galveston News of the 9th inst. says:—On behalf of the entire demo-eratic press of Texas we deny the existence of a j single Ku Klux in the State, and challenge any man bring evidence of the existence of one.